

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

SKETCHES

OF

LEGISLATORS

AND

STATE OFFICERS

1876-1878.

BY JOHN CARDWELL.

AUSTIN, TEXAS:
DEMOCRATIC STATESMAN STEAM PRINT.
1876.

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT.

Counties.—Tarrant, Parker, Wise, Montague, Clay, Jack and Young, with the unorganized counties west of them.

SENATOR THOS. BALL is a native of Virginia, and has been a resident of Texas for six years. Like Senator Grace, he is a single gentleman, a man of prepossessing appearance, and only 39 years of age. He resides in Jacksboro, Jack county, and is engaged in the practice of law. He is descended from old Virginia stock, an ancestry of the Washington and Jefferson school, and was educated at that old and honored institution of learning, William and Mary College. When the war between the South and the North commenced, his hot Southern blood led him immediately into the ranks for the defense of the South, and having served through the entire war as an honored soldier and officer, when the cause was lost he turned his face towards the Lone Star State as the point for his future home. He settled at Jacksboro, has made reputation for himself in his profession, and has so won upon the confidence of his people as to lead them to honor him. Living among Democrats, and imbued with strong party feeling, he was the choice of Democrats for the State Senatorship, and was elected by 235 majority. He is chairman of the committee on the General Land Office, and is a working member of several other committees.